



OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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APPROVED

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CALL AUGUST 13, 2020

Attendees:

Ken Boynton, Gordon Gibson, Carina Hart (joined 6:33 p.m.), Kevin Kearney and Andrew Tedford. Also present: Robert I. Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control and Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON July 23, 2020

Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Gibson, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the July 23, 2020 Regular Meeting as presented/amended. The motion passed (4-0-0).

ESTABLISHMENT OF SEWER USER RATES

Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Boynton made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority adopts a schedule of sewer user charges as heard at a Public Hearing held on August 13, 2020 for the usage period of January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 payable October 1, 2020, and for the usage period of July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 payable April 1, 2021. The motion passed (4-0-0).

UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Grasis updated the Authority on the progress of the upgrade. During the past three weeks, the upgrade included work on the aeration tanks, filter building, southern chlorine contact tank, dirty water storage tank, and the solids handling building. Mr. Grasis said that the final completion date is approximately 80 days behind schedule due to delays in the manufacturing of materials for Secondary Clarifier #5 because of COVID-19. Mr. Grasis answered questions from the Authority.

DISCUSSION REGARDING CRUMBLING FOUNDATIONS AND RELATED WPCA FEES

Mr. Grasis provided background on this item and discussion took place relative to Regulation One. Mr. Grasis informed to Authority that permits to disconnect the house lateral have been included in the building permit because the disconnect is usually within five feet of the foundation. Permits to disconnect the sewer lateral will now need to be secured through the sewer department, he said. Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Tedford, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority authorizes the Director of Water Pollution Control, or their designee, for a period of one year, expiring July 1, 2021, to waive sewer connection fees for all properties other than governmental buildings, where foundations require replacement as a result of a crumbling concrete condition evidenced by engineering or other unbiased, non-visual, criteria, and that said waiver does not

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include any inspection or disconnect fees. Discussion took place relative to changing the period to two years. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske said that the plant is functioning very well among all of the ongoing construction. He said that the facility is incredibly resilient as evidenced by the excellent recovery from the tropical storm. As reported by Mr. Grasis, current activities included: the electrical work at the Campbell Avenue pump station has been delayed because Eversource will not be available until the end of August; the treatment facility's north generator had issues during the storm and there is a now temporary generator and transformer on stand-by if needed; five of the seven pumps stations were on generators at one time or another during the storm; the Plant Foreman position is still vacant; an applicant for the Financial Analyst has accepted the position; Tolland has not responded regarding the Exit 66/67 draft sewer service area map; Lake Street manhole replacement is complete and inspections will begin next week. Regarding the SSE survey, Mr. Grasis reported that smoke testing is ongoing and soil borings off of Exit 66 & 67 are scheduled to take place next week.

ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

It was the consensus of the Authority to cancel the August 27, 2020 Regular Meeting, and to have Mr. Grasis provide an update, via email during the first week of September, regarding the progress of the upgrade.

AJOURN

Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Boynton made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa B. Yost, Secretary
Water Pollution Control